

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: Scott Rosenfeld NF3I <ham@w3eax.umd.edu>
Subject: [2922] "Gross" callsigns (just one)
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9601171422.C28848-0100000@w3eax.umd.edu>

SOMEone had to do mention it, so here goes:

On field day, I've worked K4SEX and W2SEX. Are the "SEX" calls still OK to allocate?

Not that I'd request it or recommend anyone else do so, but ow about a "9" call with "SEX?" Fill in the blank prefix.

I mean this only with humor folks - PLEASE don't take this too seriously.

OK, OK, off color but someone had to say it (most of us have come up with this one before, and no, it's not allocated).

See you all during the VHF contest!

Scott Rosenfeld NF3I Burtonsville, MD FM19 QRV 40-10/6/2/440
** Yes, you CAN do VHF contests with 25W and omni antennas **
Still stuck at 138 countries confirmed on HF w/dipoles...
72 & 73 from suburban DC 301-549-1022 (h) 301-982-1015 (w)

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: Bensondj@aol.com
Subject: [2943] 17 Meter Transceiver
Message-ID: <960117202644_45080692@emout06.mail.aol.com>

Hi gang-

This is to let you know that the 17 Meter version of the Green Mountain transceiver board is now ready to go. I was able to complete checkout and documentation last weekend (between rounds of shovelling snow, chipping ice, shovelling more snow ... you get the idea!)

The companion 20M version was most recently described in the December '95 issue of Norcal's QRPp magazine. The 17M flavor is available at the same price as the 30, 20 and 15M versions. I'm currently working the 40M version as well and I'll announce that one separately. There'll also be an enclosure option forthcoming shortly. Please feel free to contact me for ordering or technical information-

See you on 17 meters!

Thanks and 73, Dave Benson- NN1G

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [2895] 40M, Fox, Spots, and Stuff
Message-ID: <199601170640.GAA10169@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Gang,

Well, I get home early from work (by 6:30pm CST) and find the house cold. Seems that the gas company turned it off 'cuz we called in a leak and they weren't gonna turn it back on with noone here. OK. So by 7:15 get heat. House warms up enough that I wouldn't be really rattling the old paddle.

I turn on the old Explorer II (old now with a few hours last month on the air) and start listening at 0200Z for the slick fox WJ2V. I didn't hear a peep from anyone. The band was in bad shape. In reading the email the past few days think that there musta been some solar disturbance. I believe it, but more on that later. So knowing that the band was pretty bad, I take time to go off and work the puzzle in the paper. Hey, they took Calvin and Hobbes away from me, gotta get some mental exercise somewhere else now. :-)

Come back at 0315Z hoping to catch Preston after his big move up to the novice band. Still bad, but it is getting better as I am hearing some signals, but still no qrp. I wait around but don't hear anything.

The thing that I love about 40M is that it will recover from daylight conditions, it just takes time. I come back at 0420Z and start tuning around the band. @(*&&&\$@# some RTTY station right on 7.040MHz. The ARRL announces it and they will come. A lot of people can't read. I think the DX stations call CQ on the freq, then the US station connects and both move off. Not the US station calls and stays there. I'm gonna have to get me one of those super duper Little Orphan Annie decoders and see just what's going on. :-)

I move down to 7.039 and call CQ and get Smitty, NA5K. He's working on some headphones. The digital droids come on freq so he signs and I move down some more. Hey, I know when I'm outgunned.

So I move down 7.037MHz and get the keyer programmed to call CQ and wait 10 seconds and do it again. Darn it if I do it just a couple of times and then two stations pounce on me. Both 6s and I call the

first one and send the first round and come back and he's gone. So send QRZ? and get the second one, AB6DG QRP-L #48. I knew these darn numbers would come in handy. :-) :-) We had a nice chat and he is off to walk the doggies. He's running the qrp+ with r7 vertical. My long wire with low angle of radiation to match his low angle of radiation.

Now I once again wanna thank Dick Witzke for the best AGC around, 'cuz right after I finish my local QRO station who is about a mile up the hill decides to holler at me. This guy was born in May of 1917. Work him for a while and then his buddy on a ship somewhere off the coast of S.A. calls him, which means two things. Propagation is getting better and he was hearing me, since he waited until I signed to call his buddy. I don't need him in the log 'cuz I know I'm getting out.

I get email from Paul, WA9PWP that he heard me work a Las Vega NV station earlier and wanted to know if I got him to move up to 30M. Tomorrow maybe. :-)

Point: during the day, if we have a solar disturbance, then wait until after sunset and be patient. 40M will come around. It may be later, but it will come around and heal itself. I know this didn't and doesn't help Preston and it won't help the foxii on their nights. It's a throw of the dice gang.

OK, as I type this in it's 0617Z and at 7.021 or so there is a LA3HIP calling CQ. Here comes the pileup. Guys/gals are listening. I'm not the only one that understands this ionosphere stuff. :-)

I was looking at something earlier, and it might have been CQ magazine, where someone is predicting the year 2000 for the spots to come back. I totally disagree. Maybe another two years but they will come back. In the meantime we gotta get on and check all the bands. There are openings once in a while.

Thursday evening and then Saturday I wanna try out 30M again with the new NN1G GM-30, so I'll announce times and we'll do a mini-30M study. Especially RI, NV, ND, and DE. :-) AK would be a miracle. Might pull a AA4XX and reduce the power down from 0.95W. Wouldn't that be a hoot?

I listened some on 20M last weekend for the MI test on Sunday. The only station I heard was Buck, N8CQA. I didn't have the rig aligned so didn't get a chance to try it. Buck musta worked a ton of stations.

Taking a NetScape Class this week. Learning about HTML, URLs, and all that dweeb stuff. Watch for new homepage from TX. I ran over to Austin to listen to the aiff on W8MVN. Neat stuff but the other sound track NetScape couldn't decode due to compression algorithm. One of you dweebs can enlighten me on that. :-) Please. Maybe we could collect some aiff files from different receivers. I can do that with different sample rates and see just how much disk space we can eat up. All of you that can grab .aiff files let me know what you think. Save the bandwidth. We can experiment before going public.

I picked up some Ten-Tec TP-41 cases while in CA this last week. These puppies are 2.25"x5.50"x4.50" and will do nicely for the GM-XX. One of things that I do is wherever I go I gotta see the surplus places. Anchor Electronics in Sunnyvale had Ten-Tec cases and at good prices. Also picked up some nice feet too. Excited about getting another GM-30 in one of the TT's and it will be my rig for travel. The new 1.5Ahr Gel-Cell I'll run some experiments on to see if with a couple of hours a day of "typical" operation the cell will last on the road without a recharge. Makes a real compact rig and may really consider using straight key so that I don't have to mess with paddles and keyer and power etc.

The Gel-Cells that I picked up at Livermore flea market charged nicely. These are the 3Ahr and 1.5Ahr cells that I got for \$6 and \$5 respectively. Bargains galore. I'll be back in Feb for the next round. Bringing a big trunk. :-)

That's it this round.

dit dit

--

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com
Box 181150, Dallas, TX 75218-8150

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: bfollett@ditell.com
Subject: [2913] A Index/FOX es TP41's
Message-ID: <199601171742.KAA17555@orion.ditell.com>

Hi Gang:

For all of those wondering what is going on with FOX hunting/40M, The Boulder A Index reached a peak of 25 yesterday! Predicted to drop back to 5 over the next

three days. I highly recommend the Hourly STD Solar & Geophysical Report Web page for those of you that want to know what's happening with old Sol.
<http://solar.uleth.ca/solar/www/hourly.html>

Chuck wrote: <<I picked up some Ten-Tec TP-41 cases while in CA this last week. These puppies are 2.25"x5.50"x4.50" and will do nicely for the GM-XX>>

For all you Green Mountain lovers out there, (A great rig, I might add) you can order the TP-41 from DC Electronics for \$7.25 plus shipping. Their phone for ordering is 1 800 467 7736, and for 800 # impaired, their local number is 602 945 7736...They take major credit cards. I also might mention they sell alot of Mouser stuff that we all love, but at a discount. Prepaid orders have no minimum, and phone orders have minimum of \$15. They aren't quite as fast as Mouser, but you can't have everything. (And, they carry the TenTec case line :-)

73, Bob

Bob Follett WA7FCU, QRP-L # 129, NorCal, ARCI, 10-10
2861 Estates Dr. VOICE: 801.649.6457
Park City, UT 84060 Home Office E-mail: bfollett.ditell.com

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: wwm@wa8tzg.mi.org (Bill Meahan)
Subject: [2941] Any "NorCal" activity this weekend
Message-ID: <30fda698.wa8tzg@wa8tzg.mi.org>

Sorry I missed the big NorCal dinner at Two Guys From Italy last week but it's a little far from Detroit for dinner :-)

As luck/fate/work would have it, though, I'm going to be in Mountain View this weekend and the first part of next week. (At Remedy Corp., not SGI -- sorry, Chuck!) I'll be arriving mid-afternoon Saturday and leaving Wednesday morning. All day Monday, Monday night and Tuesday are spoken for, but I'll be on my own Saturday, Sunday and Tuesday night. I'll be staying at the Residence Inn on El Camino Real.

Any dinners, swaps, hamfests, meetings or other ham/QRP-related things going on during that time? Any suggestions of good scrounge palaces to visit?

Sheesh, it saves the company \$650 to fly me out there on Saturday instead of Sunday even AFTER they pay for the extra day of motel, food and rental car. Wish I could keep the difference myself - it'd cover a new QRP+ :-) :-) :-)

ObQRP: I've traced my weirdo problems with my OHS Sprint to output on the WRONG FREQUENCY! (It's NOT my antenna system after all!) The test point shows a good 10.1 MHz signal on my counter, but keying the rig shows output at ~5.5 MHz!! No wonder the dummy load showed a "proper" 1:1 SWR while any antenna I connected was off the scale on my SWR bridge.

If I tune the trimmer on the output of the driver for maximum output from the final, I get the bad signal. If I tune the cap so I get 10.1 MHz out of the final, I get very little power and the setting is not stable. Looks like the driver is oscillating??? Bad 2N2222? Darn, sure wish I had a scope :-)

72!

--

Bill Meahan WA8TZG wmeahan@wa8tzg.mi.org
Member of: ARRL, IMRA, NorCal QRP (#407), G-QRP (#8468), MI-QRP (#M1458)
Hey, this is my OWN computer! I can say what I want!
cat: a purr bearing mammal

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: kd7s@valleynet.com (Bill Jones)
Subject: [2892] Autek QF-1 Filter Documentation
Message-ID: <199601170455.UAA13584@sierra.valleynet.com>

For all who requested schematic and info on the Autek QF-1 (not QF-1A) audio filter, I may have found a source. I have stored your individual messages in my *QRP* mailbox and will respond directly when I have something to tell you.

OD-QRP:

I bit the bullet today and bought an airline ticket from Sanger, California to Dayton, Ohio with an arrival time of 7:25 a.m. on Thursday, May 16th. My plan is to O.D. on QRP, and if I have any energy left, I might even check out the other three days. So, the heading at the beginning of this paragraph is not a typo.

=====

Bill Jones - KD7S <><
QRP-L Member #85
Sanger, California
Reply to kd7s@valleynet.com

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From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996

From: burdick@interval.com (Wayne Burdick)
Subject: [2915] Clarification: QRP TTY unit ("TQ1") receives and displays, too
Message-ID: <v02130504ad22ef0e2a09@[199.170.106.28]>

>If I read this right, the TQ1 only sends
>TTY. You would still have to have a separate demodulator and display device?
> Any chance of having the received TTY display on the 16 x 2 line display?
>
>Ed, N5EM

Guess I wasn't clear, Ed. The TQ1 does demodulate and display RTTY on the 16x2 display. That makes the TQ1 a completely self-contained RTTY unit: just stick it on top of your QRP rig, connect the keyer paddle, and you can have TTY QSOs.

It will have only a limited selection of modes initially, subject to firmware upgrades. I'm hoping to have full auto-tracking CW receive as well as Baudot and ASCII.

73,
Wayne
N6KR

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: plquick@facstaff.wisc.edu (Paulette Quick, N9OUH)
Subject: [2923] FCC back at work
Message-ID: <v02110103ad22b0450fd9@[144.92.104.164]>

I was very pleased this afternoon to check the University of Arkansas callsign web page and see that the FCC has processed my Extra Class application. I passed the test on December 9 and then the U.S. government shut down on December 15. Today I heard that budget talks were suspended for today so it seemed the upgrade would never come through.

An ARRL report on USENET rec.radio.info says that the ARRL/VEC group alone had a backlog of 1,800 license applications to send in.

Then there's the Newsline Report that says that the Technician class now accounts for "a little over 41% of all radio amateurs licensed."

Newsline continues to say that "from December of 1994 to December of 1995 some 41,244 people joined the ranks of radio amateurs with the majority --

30,195 -- being no-code Techs. And very few of the newcomers are bothering to upgrade. There were about 129,500 Technician class hams who had passed a code test in the FCC's records in 1991 when the code free Technician was introduced. Now, almost five years later, there are only about 139,500 coded Techs. In other words, in the five years since no-code licensing was introduced, only 10,000 or so no-coders have bothered to upgrade."

I'm joining FISTS this week. We code geeks need to get noisier about our part of the hobby.

After work I'll post a surprisingly brief summary of what's come in so far for the Four Days in May (c) registrations. Darn few so far. Time for me to get noisier too.

<SQWAWK> de N9OUH
Paulette Quick
plquick@factstaff.wisc.edu

P.S. de PQ: I've greatly enjoyed the "HE-MAN CALLSIGN" messages. I don't know what a REAL SHE-WOMAN CALLSIGN would be. Something with YL in it, I suppose. When the vanity callsign gate starts I'm getting back my first call - WB9VHF. Now if I were to go for my kind of She-Woman callsign I'd ask for WB1RD. (My two loves are birds and radio.)

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: RobCap@aol.com
Subject: [2902] For Sale: Great QRP Rig
Message-ID: <960117085746_63118480@mail06.mail.aol.com>

For Sale: MFJ 9020 CW rig, with two special enhancements: 1) CW filter is installed, 2) Super CMOS Logikeyer II (a \$50 value) is also installed.

The rig puts out 5 watts, and draws only 60 mA on receive. The four buttons for the Logikeyer memory are on top of the radio.

The radio is in absolutely mint condition. I'm selling it because I plan to go strictly with home-made gear in future Field Days.

Price is \$160 (firm), which includes UPS ground shipping, insured, within Continental United States. This is like buying the rig, and getting the CW filter and the keyer for free!

73,

Rob, WA3ULH

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: RobCap@aol.com
Subject: [2919] For Sale: Super Deluxe Sierra
Message-ID: <960117141548_119403155@emout04.mail.aol.com>

For Sale: Super Deluxe Sierra, with 10 modifications/ enhancements as listed below. The unit is pictured in the May 1995 QST (Solar for Field Day), and will also appear in 73 Magazine in March 1996, so you can see what the rig looks like. Built in features include a switch attenuator, Brass Racer Paddles, Super CMOS Logikeyer II, crystal calibrator and much more. Rig comes with a 40 meter band module.

I'm selling the rig because I just built the new Wilderness Sierra, and went off the deep end with different modifications.

Price is \$299 (firm), which includes UPS ground shipping, insured, within Continental United States. Modifications are detailed below.

73,

Rob, WA3ULH

Modifications follow:

- 1) Rear panel-mounted fuse.
- 2) Rear panel pot for changing power output to QRPP.
- 3) Rear panel switch attenuator for going to microwatts. Four switches, with each providing a -10 dB (divide by 10) level of attenuation, making the Sierra capable of conducting microwatt QSO's.
- 4) Miniature LED Lamp behind tuning dial (switchable on/off).
- 5) Frequency marker generator from the ARRL handbook (also switchable on/off), providing marker tone at 100 khz intervals.
- 6) CMOS Logikeyer II, which is on all of the time. 4 memory buttons and speed pot are on the front panel.
- 7) Built-in 2.25-inch 8 ohm speaker.
- 8) Swapped PL-259 for the standard BNC antenna connector.

9) RIT modification. I piggybacked a 47K resistor on RIT range resistor, increasing range from +/- 2 Khz to +/- 3.5 Khz. Enables split frequency DX work, with no loss of VFO stability.

10) Integrated Brass Racer paddle works underneath the rig.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: kreinbd@ccgate.dl.nec.com (David Kreinberg)
Subject: [2903] FOX HEARD-NOT WORKED
Message-ID: <9600178218.AA821889616@smtpgw.ccgate.dl.nec.com>

Preston and gang:

I heard the 'ole foxie here in Dallas area abt 0245Z.
Preston, called you several times, but no answer. You
were abt. 229, I had the EXP II filter cranked as lots
of HUGE sigs all around. Thanks for the hunt, Preston -
I enjoyed it even though I missed ya.

One note of disappointment. It's happened forever in the
radio game, but it continues to get my goat. I get really
tired of people calling CQ without a QRL? first. I was in
several Q's last nite (after fox hunt I had a good path to
Fla. - worked several stations in the Sunshine State) and
all of a sudden CQ CQ CQ etc. No QRL? Just pounce and burn!
I sent QRL, but this was either ignored, or they couldn't
hear. Even if they couldn't hear me, it would just be nice
if they were considerate enuf to ask first!

Sri, just venting. I know this will always go on, but it does
get old. If nothing else, it has etched the point of QRL?
in my operating habits.

72/73 de Dave KK5HA
QRP-L #25

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: wmcshan@REX.RE.uokhsc.edu (Mike McShan)
Subject: [2911] Fox Hunt Suggestion
Message-ID: <9601171657.AA00361@rex.re.uokhsc.edu>

Hi gang,

Like many of you, I have listened in vain the last two times for the fox. Last night during the hunt, I got tired of listening to static and digital buzzing, and so I tuned in W1AW to see what 40M propagation was like. Very weak signal. I then listened to W1AW on 80 M and 160 M. Very strong signals (S 6-9) on both lower bands with little fading. Perhaps it would be useful for the foxes to spend a portion of their time calling on 80M -- it couldn't be any worse than 40M!

72/73,

Mike N5JKY
Edmond, OK

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: TIMOTHY J PETTIBONE <tpettibo@NMSU.Edu>
Subject: [2938] GAP Update
Message-ID: <Pine.A32.3.91.960117165906.31126C-100000@hector>

Still haven't heard from the factory but got lots of good ideas on my 30m problem on the GAP Titan. Thanks to all for your help.

Unfortunately, the GAP came down today in some monster winds. Actually, the "heavy duty" steel tv mast buckled and one nylon guy destroyed itself on the edge of a hose clamp. The GAP Titan itself is in great shape (although horizontal at the present time), and the counter poise shook itself apart. I'm looking forward to working on it this weekend and hope I can solve the 30M attenuation problem. Will probably put it up temporarily in order to get it just right before heading back up to 17' at the base.

Last nite, about 30 minutes after the "non" fox hunt, worked a station in Hawaii - so much for a deadband. Cheers and 72

Tim AB50U

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: RobCap@aol.com
Subject: [2901] Help for HW-9
Message-ID: <960117085639_63118137@mail02.mail.aol.com>

I need help with an HW-9 that I just purchased, and I'm wondering if there is a Heathkit expert or service out there who can go through the rig and bring it up to specification.

The rig exhibits low power output (1W) on 80-15 meters, and trace output (not measurable, but audible in my FT-1000) on 12-10.

Otherwise the rig works great. It's very clean (inside and out), and the receiver is very fine business. The frequency calibration from band to band is also very good.

Would appreciate any leads on people who troubleshoot these rigs. I called RTO, and only get their answering machine, so am wondering if there are other services.

Please respond directly to: Robcap@AOL.com (because I am not able to monitor the heavy traffic of the QRP-L.

73,

Rob

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: DAVID TEAGUE <dwteague@mci.newscorp.com>
Subject: [2894] Icom 737A QRP--I just did it!
Message-ID: <199601170616.BAA32417@kafka.delphi.com>

My interest in QRP has been building lately, probably from reading this list. The power level on my 737A only went down to about 8 watts at the lowest setting.

With all the talk about the Icom 735 having a low power adjustment I decided to check the manual for my 737A and shazam there it be! R208 on the main unit. Now the power can be adjusted anywhere between 3 and 110 watts from the front panel of the rig.

Well now I can get my feet wet QRP. The only antenna I have in the air now is for 40 meters and the band really stinks tonite.

73 and look for me on 40m

Dave

Dave Teague KF5IU EM31 Jena, LA

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: "John Foote" <John_Foote_at_HDN-BCSE@ccgate.ml.nec.com>
Subject: [2917] Lunch time QSO
Message-ID: <9600178219.AA821915174@mvlsmtg.ccgate.ml.nec.com>

Just came in from parking lot after a short (CW) QSO with a guy in Connecticut on 40 meters.

Using 50 watts until I get the feel for what the Alinco DX-70T with HamStick will do. Will have time to experiment with less tomorrow. Didn't even know what's on 40 M in the middle of a winter day. Haven't really tried it, even on a weekend.

Found lots of signals. I guess the lucky retired folks can ham it up anytime they want to. So maybe that's a good sign, kind of like the advice to stop on the highway where the truckers eat 'cause they could pick anywhere to stop, so where they do must be ok.

HamStick is roof mounted on my Plymouth Horizon. And yes, Ed (N5EM), it does ugly up the car, but hey! the Antenna Handbook says the lowest loss resistance is on top of the car.

Of course, it also says the way to work 160 M is to put up a half wave dipole. How about an extended double zepp on 160 M?

If 40 M really is open mid-day maybe after some fine tuning I'll find there are folks out there in the ether that could make a lunchtime sked. (Let's have none of those "nooner" jokes.)

... m m m Now, I wonder just how little power I can run and still make it half way across the country on 40 around noon.

72 de KR4GL
John Foote

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: kf8at@detroit.ampr.org
Subject: [2927] More Calls!
Message-ID: <624@detroit.ampr.org>

One of my favorites as a kid was 5Y3GT!

Always wanted to see that on a QSL card for grins!

73,
Floyd, KF8AT

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: jgoemans@facstaff.wisc.edu (Goemans)
Subject: [2891] more re: REAL MANS Callsigns
Message-ID: <199601170451.WAA26040@audumla.students.wisc.edu>

>.what about W1DUH??!!.....

>

Maybe Chuck ought to go for K5EE, if avail, hi.hi.

73,
Bob KI7MN NorCal #1228, qrp-ARCI #8918, qrp-1 #271

You also might think of K5DIT, but that one's taken, worked him last week on 40 mtrs !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

72 Paul WA9PWP

QRP ARCI, NorCal, QRP-L, etc etc...

Paul Goemans WA9PWP
4326 Clover Court Madison, WI 53711-4805
608-274-5143 jgoemans@facstaff.wisc.edu

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: Lay Heng CHEE <sclh0mp@zeus.comm.mot.com>
Subject: [2942] Need some help
Message-ID: <9601180223.AA27785@zeus.comm.mot.com>

hi

i am quite an new ham with 9M2MOC. 9M2MOC is a radio club established by Motorola Penang for their employees. Recently, i heard news that in New Zealand, they have their ham repeaters rigged up in such a way that communications can be stretched all the way from the North Island down to the South Island on 2m. we found that to be quite neat and wonder how it is done. we kinda thought it would be great to be able to establish something similar to that throughout Peninsular Malaysia ie from the northern border near Thailand all the way down to the south before Singapore and maybe across the the South China Sea to East Malaysia at Borneo side.

i would appreciate it if anyone who knows how the New Zealand structure is achieved or what i heard about New Zealand is true to enlighten me on that. If not, if any of u hams out there can put me in contact with some ham in NZ, i would be grateful. Thanks.

73,

lh_chee (9M2MOC)

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: JOHN SHUSTER <shuster5647@mci.newscorp.com>
Subject: [2909] OHR Group Purchase Update!
Message-ID: <199601171651.LAA08697@kafka.delphi.com>

Great response to the group buy so far, close to 75 kits at discounted prices are on their way to QRP-L members.

Only 30 meter Sprint II's are available now. The 40 and 80 meter rigs are gone. I'm looking forward to building a piece of QRP design history and getting on the air.

The sale is on until this Sunday night. If anyone needs to have the original announcement re-sent, please let me know.

73,

John Shuster
KC7CKP
In little Port Orchard, WA

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: Dale Hall <102603.30@compuserve.com>
Subject: [2890] OK, OK! You stumped a hound.
Message-ID: <960117041921_102603.30_HHU54-1@CompuServe.COM>

Where are the foxes!? I didn't hear the fox last night or tonight.

The band seems to be LOUSY! Did ole Sol do something naughty?

Seems there aren't too many of any kind of ham on, lately. Is anyone else

having the same trouble? Doldrums?

de Dale KB0WZ #148 Kansas City

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: bhopkins@polarnet.com (Bruce Hopkins)
Subject: [2897] QRO Rigs to QRP using ALC
Message-ID: <v01530501ad224cb8eb90@[204.119.24.98]>

>The IC-735 will go QRP. There are two ways to do this that I know about.
>
>1. You build some kind of battery biasing contraption which attaches
>externally to the radio. The voltage changes ALC. The device has one or
>two >pots on it to vary the voltage and I suppose you can calibrate the
>markings on >the pot.

Hi Gang,

I found an article and schematic in QST Oct 1994 pg. 46 that addresses using the ALC input on QRO rigs to run QRP... While I have not used this circuit I thought I would bring it to your attention.

If you do not have access to this article and need the info, drop me an e-mail and I will send you a GIF or JPEG file of the schematic and the pertinent parts of the article...

~

72/73/00's - Bruce * KL7JAF
QRP-L #380 ISSB #14548
McPig #003 TFO - 359
E-Mail: bhopkins@polarnet.com
BBS: KL7JAF@KL7GNG.#NAK.AK.USA.NOAM
Snail Mail: B. Hopkins / P.O. Box 10079 / Fairbanks, AK. / 99710

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: kf8at@detroit.ampr.org
Subject: [2932] QRP Field Day?!
Message-ID: <629@detroit.ampr.org>

I would just like to know if there is anyone that has had experience with a QRP Field Day. I would like to hear more pros and cons about such a venture. The club I belong to is looking for some new Field Day challenges, and this is one route we are considering. We have been discussing what we would have to pay attention to, for instance: more efficient antenna systems, less EMI and noise from gensets, less station to station EMI/RFI, keeping key stations on the air for 24 hours, recruitment of good ops, batteries and charging schemes, the use of leading edge rigs (turned down to QRP power levels) for their filtering, speech compression, QSK, dual VFOs, memories, etc.; and of course the difference in point multipliers between running QRP and 150 watts. We realize that we don't have the luxury of being at one coast or the other, but that will be part of the challenge.

Any thoughts would be appreciated!

73,
Floyd, KF8AT

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: QRP1@aol.com
Subject: [2926] QRP Newsletter
Message-ID: <960117153048_119464796@mail04.mail.aol.com>

Please post the following ad.

Greetings to all.

We are publishing a new QRP Newsletter for buying/selling and trading of QRP and related Equipment. If you have items for sale/want or trade that you would like to advertise , you may email them to us. All ads are free and you advertise any QRP or station related equipment. Visit our website at: <http://home.aol.com/QRP1> For a sample issue send a standard sase to PTM Box 506, Devault, Pa. 19432

Thank You,

Bruce
N3JOV

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: burdick@interval.com (Wayne Burdick)
Subject: [2888] QRP TTY unit ("TQ1"), tentative description
Message-ID: <v02130516ad221feca5b4@[199.170.106.28]>

>>Anyone know what Kantronics and others using for FSK demodulation? I'm
>>currently using an XR2211 in my QRP TTY system. -- Wayne, N6KR

>Hmmm...this couldn't have anything to do with the next NorCAL project, could
>it? -- Mark, AA7TA

Well, since you asked...

Hey, the ARRL says 7.040 is a TTY calling frequency, and of course the TTY
gang jumped on it. If you can't beat 'em, join 'em: I'm doing QRP TTY!

So far I've been doing it cross-mode with the first version of my TTY
reader. I transmit CW, they transmit Baudot. This amuses the TTY folk but
you don't get much respect.

I'm now just about finished with the prototype of a cheap little TTY/CW
unit (code name, "TQ1") that has a PIC, a 16x2-line LCD, a few switches,
and a place to plug in your keyer paddle. It has an FSK data output that
connects directly to the RIT circuit on the Sierra or '40A so you can
actually transmit TTY (just Baudot for now).

Tentative TQ1 feature list:

* (If someone has a patent on this, tell me now!)
In TTY mode, you either push buttons to send
canned messages, OR YOU SEND CW TO THE BOX WITH THE PADDLE,
which goes out as TTY. Voila: no keyboard necessary.
(A later version will have a serial input so you
can use any PDA, laptop, or dumb terminal keyboard).

(My logic on this: canned messages will make up
a good chunk of QRP TTY contacts, and the other
part can be conducted at CW speeds, which aren't
that much slower than observed TTY typing speeds.)

- * BIG nonvolatile message buffers for CW or TTY, with quick access to all buffers and other settings.
- * DC power is patched through the TQ1 so that you can optionally reduce supply voltage to the transceiver in TTY mode. This means you don't fry your final, AND your PA transistor still stays at around 50 ohms.

Example: Sierra puts out 2W at 14V DC. Drop voltage to 10V and you'll put out 1W. In both cases, the collector impedance is around 50 ohms, using $Z = V_{cc}^2 / (2 * P_o)$.

- * Audio is patched through the TQ1, too, so that you hear your rig's audio on receive, and the TQ1 sidetone on transmit.
- * Est. finished size will be 1"H x 2"D x 3.5"W. It can be operated with the display facing either up or forward, depending on the operating position.
- * Est. current drain: 8 to 15mA on receive, a bit higher on transmit. This will accomplish my goal of making the unit compatible with field operation.

I'll be looking for a beta tester at some point, and this could be a NorCal project if there's enough interest. It certainly will be a Wilderness kit (est price, < \$100) unless I get too many comments of the form, "CW paddle to send TTY? Are you joking?"

Once again I'm out on a limb with no idea if anyone else wants to do this. Any QRP TTY specialists out there? Any suggestions? Do we need QRP AMTOR? (jeez, I hope not--not enough code space :)

73,
Wayne

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: QLF@mimi@magic.itg.ti.com

Subject: [2920] QRP-L
Message-ID: <9601171925.AA09891@itg.ti.com>

From: Brad Bradfield QLF

Subj: QRP-L

. . . . or how 'bout TW3EET - Bird Island

or some of my personal favorites: 1B3GT and 6L6GTB. I could always get plenty of miniature QSL cards for those calls when I fixed TVs for a living.

73's

Brad, WB0CGH

Brad Bradfield, PE	Electrical Design Engineer
108 Forestwood	Texas Instruments, Inc.
Corinth, TX 76205	

QLF@MSG.TI.COM	(H) 817-321-2960
	(W) 214-462-6230

WB0CGH@W05H.#DFW.TX.USA.NA

ARRL Life Member QRP-L #377 SMIRK #4906 IEEE(M)

Collector of wireless and landline Morse keys and accessories.

Collector and procurer of useless trivia and minutiae.

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: burdick@interval.com (Wayne Burdick)
Subject: [2945] Read the list via the Web!
Message-ID: <v02130511ad23686c19ca@[199.170.106.28]>

A really good way to avoid getting bombarded by ALL the QRP-L list traffic, as well as traffic from other lists, is to simply browse the list on the QRP-L website. Steve Hideg has done a great job of organizing the messages for easy access.

Perhaps this has been said a dozen times already, but I'd like to put in

another plug for this method. Rather than subscribe to either the main list or digest, I just log into the Website a couple of times a day and scan the message titles. I read about a third of the messages, skipping those that are way outside my interests.

If you've got web access, try it; if not, get it! Once everyone is doing it this way, I think the calls for list-splitting and complaints of noise will die down....and even if they don't, those who use the web can skip such threads entirely. :)

Wayne
N6KR

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: "rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
Subject: [2925] Regenerative Receiver Book is sold
Message-ID: <n1390233529.49831@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>

to all,
Unfortunately, I was not the lucky party! But I am going to start getting the catalogs from Rainey Day Books who have several lists of old technical books.

Thanks LB for telling us about such a nice resource!
Stuart K5KVH
rohre@arlut.utexas.edu

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: John Foote <footej@hn.va.nec.com>
Subject: [2935] Re[2]: FCC back at work
Message-ID: <9600178219.AA821926433@bills.hn.va.nec.com>

Of course, there's always A1JF, which would be short for the French *jeune fille*. The essential English translation is "classy lady."

de KR4GL
John Foote

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: "Brian L. Lewis" <76500.1621@compuserve.com>
Subject: [2898] Skunked by the Fox...agn!
Message-ID: <960117100217_76500.1621_HHE31-1@CompuServe.COM>

Well, I am 0 fer 5 on the Fox. However, I have had a good time searching and listening! Keep it up!

73

Brian L. Lewis
N50CD
QRP-L #324
Shreveport, La.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: "Brian L. Lewis" <76500.1621@compuserve.com>
Subject: [2899] Skunked by the Fox...agn!
Message-ID: <960117112942_76500.1621_HHE24-1@CompuServe.COM>

Well, I am 0 fer 5 on the Fox. However, I have had a good time searching and listening! Keep it up!

73

Brian L. Lewis
N50CD
QRP-L #324
Shreveport, La.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: kreinbd@ccgate.dl.nec.com (David Kreinberg)
Subject: [2916] SOLAR INDICES
Message-ID: <9600178219.AA821905343@smtpgw.ccgate.dl.nec.com>

Folks:

I know this is making the science of solar observation a bit juvelile, but can somebody give a REALLY basic breakdown of what these numbers mean?

Example:

INDEX	RANGE	BASIC MEANING
-----	-----	-----
A	1-10	good numbers for hf bands 80-15 meters
	11- 20	better numbers for hf bands 160-10 meters
X	30	bad numbers for hf prop.

(note) Numbers above for example only - I'm sure they aren't realistic in any way, shape, etc. ;-)

Bottom line - a simple guide so when we read or hear (WWV) these indices mentioned, we have a good idea of what condx to expect. If you know of a good book or guide for this, then please pass it along. I haven't cracked the ARRL hndbk lately, and I forget if they delve into this, but then agn I'm looking for something super basic as a quicky-type guide.

As always, thanks a bunch

72/73 de Dave KK5HA
QRP-L #25

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: PDouglas12@aol.com
Subject: [2889] Tuesday's Fox Report (shortest)
Message-ID: <960116224756_62926923@emout05.mail.aol.com>

Thank you, AK5B, for being my only contact in two hours, and keeping me from being shut out and thoroughly embarrassed. 40 meters is the worst I've ever seen in 35 years as a ham. That is really no excuse to the rest of youse guys, though, as Bob was a good 539 and he gave me a generous 549. Was I just not hearing you? Were some of you calling me, and was I hard of hearing? Tell me if you heard me, please, as I would be curious to know if it was the band, me, my inverted vee, or what. I did turn on the Yaesu to see if its receiver was better (it wasn't).

I could hear two Cuban stations, one of which had the dubious distinction of having a 565 signal--the last digit signifying that the signal was mostly modulated by AC hum. But he was pretty strong!

Anyway, I am retired for the year (life, Chuck?) as Fox. If you worked me either time, thanks. To all the rest, thanks for trying! 72, and CUL when the spots come back.

Preston WJ2V

PS According to the NY Times today, astronomers using the Hubbell (sp?) Telescope discovered about 50 billion new galaxies each with a hundred

billion stars. One of them must have good sunspots.

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: walworth@ICSI.Net (Bob Walworth)
Subject: [2940] Tuesday's Fox Report (shortest)
Message-ID: <9601180202.AA25128@ICSI.Net>

>
>Thank you, AK5B, for being my only contact in two hours, and keeping me from
>being shut out and thoroughly embarrassed. 40 meters is the worst I've ever
>seen in 35 years as a ham. That is really no excuse to the rest of youse
>guys, though, as Bob was a good 539 and he gave me a generous 549. Was I
>just not hearing you? Were some of you calling me, and was I hard of
>hearing? Tell me if you heard me, please, as I would be curious to know if
>it was the band, me, my inverted vee, or what. I did turn on the Yaesu to
>see if its receiver was better (it wasn't).

And thank you Preston for hanging in there.

I was listening for the "fox" for an hour and a half (0230) and heard nothing but an occasional 6 or 4. Nothing from 2 land. I went into the other room for a few min. and came bk to tune once more. There you were, pounding in calling CQ Fox. I couldn't believe the sig! When I went bk to you, you answered as did another 2 station...Hense the problem with the copy. He finally did pause and let us get in the Q. I turned up the volume and went into the other room and told

my wife, KE5TF, "listen to that, that is what I couldn't hear for the last hour and a half." You were calling CQ agn. I never heard if you got a reply. That was the LAST I heard from you. The band just sucked up ur sig!!

Thanks agn for being there.

72 de Bob

QRP-L 123

>
Bob Walworth
AK5B
Spring TX

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: svein@eci1.ucsb.edu (Svein Vetti)
Subject: [2936] VHF crystal oscillator design : books etc.
Message-ID: <9601172235.AA19001@gladiola.ucsb.edu>

Hi, I am looking for sources to help me designing a VHF crystal oscillator for a single channel battery powered receiver.

Any suggestions, books, articles ..?

Thanks

-Svein, UCSB

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: "Mitch, WA4OSR" <fmitch@maf.mobile.al.us>
Subject: [2930] Re: "Gross" callsigns (just one)
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.960117152415.26022A-100000@ns1>

On Wed, 17 Jan 1996, Scott Rosenfeld NF3I wrote:

> SOMEone had to do mention it, so here goes:
>
> On field day, I've worked K4SEX and W2SEX. Are the "SEX" calls still OK
> to allocate?
>

k4sex is the club call of the newnan georgia ham club... it is the call of a deceased member... i remember going to the atlanta hamfest in the 60's and seeing the name tag k4sex... he was a really nice guy and obviously the newnan club thought highly of him to get his call... as i remember, his wife was also an ham... i don't remember her call but i guess it was good that he got k4sex instead of her... ;)

mitch
wa4osr

* * * The *HAM OWNER* of The Vibroplex Co., Inc. * * *

Email: fmitch@maf.mobile.al.us Felton "Mitch" Mitchell, WA4OSR
The Vibroplex Co., Inc.
11 Midtown Park, E.
Mobile, AL 36606-4141 USA
334-478-8873 Vibroplex, 334-342-7259 home, 334-476-0465 FAX

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: Steve Thompson <kj7dn@primenet.com>
Subject: [2934] Re: "Gross" callsigns (just one)
Message-ID: <Pine.BSD.3.91.960117145340.29433B-100000@usr1.primenet.com>

If Hugh Hefner was a ham, would his call be N2SEX?

```
+-----+
|
| Steve C. Thompson - KJ7DN      ----- E-mail  kj7dn@primenet.com |
| Manager of Info. Technology    -----      steve@cpginc.com   |
| Continental Promotion Group    -----/H----- |
| Tempe, AZ, USA                 H          "Soon to be" proud builder |
| Home of Superbowl XXX           H          of an OHR Explorer II 40M |
|                                H                                     |
| 602.731.3535                   H          QRP-L #259 - ScQRPions #1 |
|                                H          NorCal                     |
|
+-----+
```

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: aa7qy@primenet.com (Roger Hightower)
Subject: [2908] Re: 40M, Fox, Spots, and Stuff
Message-ID: <199601171528.IAA23034@usr2.primenet.com>

At 01:43 AM 1/17/96 EST, chuck adams wrote:

>

>Gang,...

>

>Point: during the day, if we have a solar disturbance, then wait
>until after sunset and be patient. 40M will come around. It may
>be later, but it will come around and heal itself. I know this
>didn't and doesn't help Preston and it won't help the foxii on
>their nights. It's a throw of the dice gang.

>

>OK, as I type this in it's 0617Z and at 7.021 or so there is
>a LA3HIP calling CQ. Here comes the pileup. Guys/gals are
>listening. I'm not the only one that understands this ionosphere
>stuff. :-)

>

Yup..it came back. 7.035-.045 was full of stuff 'bout 30 min after sunset
here in AZ....folks

from FL, KS, OR, TX, OH, IN, IL, WI, IA, AL...lot's of them. Heard Chuck
answer a

CQ from K8KXX (NC) but the other guy didn't hear him. Waited a decent

interval and
threw a call out to Chuck, but he either didn't hear me or had moved on.

No Fox, though, but W1AW was booming in at .0475.

Very crowded around the QRP calling freq. Made me wonder...here all us
QRPeepers
are sitting around listening for the fox, and the QRO types (crows?) don't
hear any
activity, so they jump in. Sounds self-defeating to me. I'm sort of leaning
toward a short
period of listening for the fox, and if I don't hear him or anyone
responding to him, just
putting out a CQ. At least trying to stake a claim near .040 so the crows
don't chew
up the peepers.

Absolutely NO activity on/around 7.110 for the 15 min designated.

Running out of fox dates. Only 8 weeks left to try and improve a dismal record.

72/73, de Roger

Roger Hightower, AA7QY

NorCal 1099 CoQRP 176 QRP-L 62 G-QRP 9081 ARCI 8946 NE-QRP 383

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996

From: Pat Taber <ptaber@logiccraft.com>

Subject: [2924] Re: FCC back at work

Message-ID: <199601172021.PAA80166@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

At 14:55 01/17/96 EST, you wrote:

>I was very pleased this afternoon to check the University of Arkansas
>callsign web page and see that the FCC has processed my Extra Class
>application.

Many congrats on the upgrade!

P.S. de PQ: I've greatly enjoyed the "HE-MAN CALLSIGN" messages. I don't
>know what a REAL SHE-WOMAN CALLSIGN would be.

For the militant, I'd guess NOMEN would be good. And of course WOMEN and
WOMAN should get snapped up pretty quick. Canadians could get VE1NUS and
make a clever card with a statue subbing for the 1. The best of women could
be A1YL. The best of companionable women could be A1YF. Who knows where it
could all lead?

=====

Patrick Taber	Email: ptaber@logicraft.com
Principal Software Engineer	Phone: (603) 880-0300
Logicraft Information Services	Fax: (603) 880-7229
22 Cotton Road	
Nashua N.H. 03063	Also known as: KC1TD

```
>80 is quite challenging from my small 50X100' lot. I use a 102'
>center fed zepp, which does ok on 40, but 80. It's hard enough
>to make it into the mid west on 40, but forget 80. I regards
>to 160, are you serious...
>
>[smile].
>
>max (nu6u)
```

Actually, I said that I could hear W1AW on 160 M. I did not suggest that 160 M be used for the hunt (only 80 M for part of the hunt). When the foxes are on the West Coast or Southwest, I suspect that you will have good luck on 80 M.

From qrp-l@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: "rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
Subject: [2910] RE: history of Vibroplex-good book
Message-ID: <n1390246249.77412@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>

to all: I will jump in here and say the History book on the Vibroplex available from them is a fine investment for bug collectors or any of us, and

makes interesting reading.

It is high quality printing, and an ideal gift to yourself, or from someone who may not be able to pick out a bug from beans, to you. Contact Mitch at the Vibroplex adr. for yours, and of course he reads this list. I sure like my copy of the book, and I don't even own a bug!! (I do own the fine Brass Racer paddle.)

72, Stuart K5KVH
rohre@arlut.utexas.edu

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: Paul Christensen <PaulC@jax.se.continental.com>
Subject: [2900] RE: MARTIN FLASK KEY??????
Message-ID: <30FD27C7@se.continental.com>

>I JUST AQUIRED A MARTIN FLASH KEY MADE BY MARTIN REASERCH &
>MANUFACTURING CORP. NY NY
>SN # 5956
>CAN ANYONE GIVE ME INFO ON THIS BUG?
>THANKS AND 73

It was almost certainly manufactured in 1939. I believe that in 1938, the two sons of Horace Martin incorporated under the name of "Martin Research and Manufacturing Corporation." In December of 1939, the Martin's sold the entire product line of Flash Keys to the Bunnell Company. Subsequent Martin Flash keys (after 1939) had the "J.H. Bunnell" labels.

You've got a "keeper."

-Paul, N9AZ

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: N5EM@aol.com
Subject: [2907] Re: MARTIN FLASK KEY??????
Message-ID: <960117101430_63145553@mail02.mail.aol.com>

In a message dated 96-01-17 08:49:01 EST, you write:

>It was almost certainly manufactured in 1939. I believe that in 1938, the

>two sons of Horace Martin incorporated under the name of "Martin Research
>and Manufacturing Corporation." In December of 1939, the Martin's sold
>the entire product line of Flash Keys to the Bunnell Company. Subsequent
>Martin Flash keys (after 1939) had the "J.H. Bunnell" labels.

>
>

OK, Paul. I don't have one of these Flash keys, even though it would be cool. But, your subject line references the Martin Flask Key. I think I want one of THESE. Did they come in various sizes . . . 1/2 pint, full pint? Could you have the flask engraved? Come on, now. Inquiring minds want to know.

Ed

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: n1ist@netcom.com (Michael L. Ardai)
Subject: [2928] Re: More Calls!
Message-ID: <199601172113.NAA04377@netcom5.netcom.com>

Somewhere, I have a card from RG8U from the DXpedition to the Coaxial Islands.

/mike

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: jeverhar@camden.ge.com
Subject: [2929] Re: More Calls!
Message-ID: <9601172131.AA06250@mohican.CAMDEN.MMC.COM>

Floyd, you wrote:

>One of my favorites as a kid was 5Y3GT!
>
>Always wanted to see that on a QSL card for grins!
>
>73,
>Floyd, KF8AT

'Way back in the old days of one-man dxpeditions someone (Gus Browning?) visited a number of Asian and African countries with unusual call signs. I think I worked him while he was using a rectifier tube call sign. QRP per the ARCI rules at the time, 20 watts on 40 cw. Alas, the card has been lost in one of my moves...

72/73,

Joe E., N2CX

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: "Mitch, WA4OSR" <fmitch@maf.mobile.al.us>
Subject: [2931] Re: More Calls!
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.960117152910.26022B-100000@ns1>

On Wed, 17 Jan 1996, Michael L. Ardai wrote:

> Somewhere, I have a card from RG8U from the DXpedition to the Coaxial Islands.
>
> /mike
>
>
yes, his partner in that adventure was RG8X ...

mitch
wa4osr

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: Paul Harden <pharden@aoc.nrao.edu>
Subject: [2939] Re: QRP Field Day?!
Message-ID: <199601180013.RAA04800@zia.aoc.nrao.edu>

Here's a file I wrote recently for another project, but applicable to answer some of your FD questions.

After a couple of ill-fated attempts, our QRP FD station last year was fairly successful. Here's what we learned or did:

1. Plan ahead; decide what rigs/antenna's you're gonna take. Get it all together long before hand.
2. If possible, put each station into a box, suitcase, or enclosure so you're not hooking up everything at the site. Should be ready-to-go.
3. Choose and visit your prospective site(s) ahead of time and plan where the antennas will go, parking, the stations, etc. If possible, operate from the site an hour or so before FD to check ambient noise levels.
4. Get the crew together and assign who does what, who brings what, when they operate, etc. When Joe goes home and leaves a station QRT for

hours (because no relief operator), it kills your score fast.

5. If you're gonna be a QRP station, then be a QRP station. Be miles from the QRO guys. You can't be part of the club QRO station. Sorry. QRP rigs are very prone to front-end overload. A nearby 100W station is not just a nuisance, it is totally disabling!
6. Put up two antennas for each station if possible, preferably a dipole and vertical. Each has its merit you can exploit during the period. The skip from each type will "land" in different parts of the country, making more stations available to hear you. Also makes up for Murphy's Law (when that wind gust rips your dipole to shreds). Also with two antennas, you have a higher chance one will be a better performer than just one. Ability to switch between them instantly is a plus.
7. All antennas should be TUNED antennas, up HIGH, and not some end-fed random wire thingie that looks good on an SWR meter. A dipole up 10 feet ain't gonna do it. Get a dipole or inverted vee up high and away from obstructions, good coax, good connectors, etc.
8. Have plenty of power. Charged batteries and a spare. Then take a cable you can hook up to your car battery if needed. Remember, Murphy is there. (If anything can go wrong, it will).
9. Take a tool box, soldering iron, spare coax, connector or two, etc. Plenty of duct tape and rope, first aid kit, etc.
10. Take a QRP rig that some has quasi-decent CW filtering. If your rig is running 3KHz bandwidth at best -forget it. This is one time where some decent filtering is a must. (Not talking DSP, just a good filter).

OPERATING

1. Decide on your log keeping and dupe keeping beforehand, work out the bugs and learn how it works. Have a clipboard or folder for each band. This is sacred stuff; keep it organized.
2. Review the rules carefully and take advantage of all the bonus points, such as copying the W1AW message, public relations (short blurb in local paper), etc. Make sure you understand the scoring and the class of station. You can't change classes once you start (from a 2A to 1A because someone went home -sorry).
3. Assign somebody to be "in charge" to periodically review the logs, tally the score, and find errors/mistakes before it's too late. Also keeping participants informed of the score is a great motivator.
4. Work the search-and-pounce mode for the most part. A QRP station is unlikely to hold a frequency for long. (But if you do -go for it!). It's also allows the less experienced ops to get the exchange info before calling the station.
5. Get the newer or less experienced hams involved. If they don't operate, they can help log, keep the camp fire going, pour the coffee, make the donut run, etc. Applies to the OT's in the club as well. Get everyone involved. Hamming is supposed to be a fraternity and fun. And the newer guys will never be ace ops if you don't introduce them somehow.
6. If you're the op ... take a break once in awhile. Don't go till you get punchy. Go over to the others and tell them what you're experiencing.

They wanna know and you need the break. 15 minutes can do wonders.
7. Take care of the troops! Make sure you have plenty of food, munchies, beverages. Do something special for dinner, like fry hamburgers or go get a pizza. Dinner time is when they start disappearing if you don't feed them and make FD just a bit festive.

AFTER FD:

Raise right hand a swear you'll never do it again. Then plan for next year (learning from your mistakes).

And if you're using a Coleman lantern for light, don't kick it over at 3am and nearly burn down the entire FD site in a national forest. (I won't elaborate any further on that one).

If your FD operation involves a remote location or camp site, ensure you follow all the safety rules of camp fires, etc. as you would on any camping trip. Make sure your family/friends know where you are. Of course a 2M rig usually takes care of that part.

And finally GET SOME CONTESTING EXPERIENCE. Get on the air during one of the big contests and work it for an hour or so. Learn how to pick out those calls, write down the exchange and work break-in. It may be at 35wpm, way too fast for you, but with some practice, you can survive the very limited contest exchange at that speed quite well ... IF you get some practice.

Speaking of practice, do something for the QRP Afield event April 27th. It's a FD for QRPers and excellent opportunity to fine tune things before the ARRL FD 6 weeks later.

GL, Paul NA5N

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: rwright@soml.com (Robert Wright)
Subject: [2906] Re: QRP TTY Unit
Message-ID: <199601171448.GAA17714@sonic.net>

Sounds like Wayne has done it again with a terrific concept for TTY. The addition of a simple serial port would allow alternative keyboard methods such as those that form ASCII characters with simple sets of switches for the fingers etc. To allow true QRP at both ends of the QSO, amtor would be a great addition some day, since each party can use the absolute minimum of power to keep the link going... and yet have error free copy. Thanks Wayne!
72... Bob WB7CNJ.

Robert R. Wright, M.D. Santa Rosa, CA WB7CNJ
QRP-L #333 Norcal #201 MARCO #837 QRP-ARCI #8382
Life Member ARRL, AMSAT, NRA, WorldRadio
rwright@soml.com

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: W Marty Ray/DELCO <WMRAY@mail.delcoelect.com>
Subject: [2904] re:QRP TTY unit ("TQ1")
Message-ID: <9601171701.AA2965@lnusde.delcoelect.com>

I think Wayne has an excellent idea. This will give us some more diverse interests to discuss and also it just sounds like a lot of fun!

Also, I think the idea of transmitting with a cw paddle is terrific. It is a very simple way of getting on rtty using existing equipment, especially if you don't want to haul a pc around with you. I suspect that many of us can send fast enough with paddles that the guy on the other end wont even suspect that you aren't using a keyboard.

Keep up the good work, Wayne!

72 de Marty Ray
NN9H, qrp-1 #383

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: Harry_Chase@smtpgwy.windata.com (Harry Chase)
Subject: [2918] Re: REAL MAN's callsigns
Message-ID: <9600178219.AA821914093@smtpgwy.windata.com>

OK, how about:
 SW1NE
 P1GGY
 P0RK
 P0RKY
 o1NK ??????
 --Now THESE are true HAM calls!!!!

Harry
WA1VXH

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996

From: khdxdiv.lanl.gov
Subject: [2921] Re: REAL MAN's callsigns
Message-ID: <199601171936.0AA27496@nss2.CC.Lehigh.EDU>

For a while I had N5SIV, ferreal. That one can make your head spin in morse. 'Twas my fault for letting the ticket lapse while building a house, working, and having (well my wife really did it) kids. When I tried to reinstate the old license the FCC declined to restore the old callsign. But for 30 bucks I will probably return to K7RBJ. It isn't pretty, but it is me.

duh duh
Keith, ab5qe
khdxdiv.lanl.gov

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: "John D. Spittle" <jds@freenet.vancouver.bc.ca>
Subject: [2944] Re: Regenerative Receiver Book is sold
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9601171815.A5732-0100000@opus.freenet.vancouver.bc.ca>

Stuart & all:

I too had responded to LB's posting but you've now saved me a phone call. Whitehead's book is a classic and long out of print. Maybe some enterprising publisher could put out a facsimile edition. The copy I used was borrowed and I never did own one.

72 Derry VE7QK

On Wed, 17 Jan 1996, rohre wrote:

> to all,
> Unfortunately, I was not the lucky party! But I am going to start getting the
> catalogs from Rainey Day Books who have several lists of old technical books.
>
> Thanks LB for telling us about such a nice resource!
> Stuart K5KVH
> rohre@arlut.utexas.edu
>
>

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: "Warren E. Lewis" <saswel@unx.sas.com>
Subject: [2933] Re: SOLAR INDICES

Message-ID: <199601172138.AA24158@cardamom.unx.sas.com>

David,

Here is a little bit that I know about it. Also check the ARRL Handbook and ARRL Antenna Book for a better discussion. I also noted a file called WWVINFO.TXT on the ARRL Info-serv file server. Hope this helps.

cheers - Warren

Some basic solar info:

Solar Flux: it is a measure of the solar noise at 2800 MHz. It has been shown that this noise reading is proportional to the ionization of the F layer. In fact, it is also directly related to how many sunspots are currently visible on the sun, which as you know also has a bearing on the ionization of the F layer. The higher this number the better the Maximum Usable Frequencies(MUF) thus, better propagation.

During the "good ole days" there have been Solar Flux values as high as 300. During those times 10 meters was open around the clock. Now with solar fluxes in the 80s, 10 meters is rarely open for long haul (>3000km) communications. During these low times 20 meters and below are the best for DXing.

Geomagnetic Activity: has to do with the earths magnetic field. It is either quiet, unsettled, active, minor storm, major storm, or severe storm. When we have a major or severe storm the bands are noisy and signals tend to be weak and they will fade in and out. Propagation is degraded particularly in north ward paths toward Japan and Asia. Also when geomagnetic activity is high you will have Auroral activity in the northern states of the US.

The K index: is a measure of geomagnetic activity. It is on a scale from 0 to 9. The higher the K index the more active or stormy the magnetic field is. F layer propagation is normally good when the K is 2 or less. The K index is measured every three hours at a bunch of stations around the world.

The A index: is similiar to the K index, except it is a daily measurement and its values can be from 0 to ~300. Typically, numbers in the upper 20s and 30s represent stormy conditions. The K index is a better current measurement of conditions because of the frequency of the measurements.

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: Scott Cranston <cranston@zk3.dec.com>
Subject: [2914] re: Speech processor/VOX for qrp+
Message-ID: <9601171747.AA14209@falpa.zk3.dec.com>

Yet more references:

VOX (simplist I've seen): page 12-25, 'Radio Handbook, 23rd Edition' by Bill Orr, ISBN: 0-672-22424-0. 4 transistors, has VOX gain and delay adjustment, handles PTT input too, drives a relay, no PC board.

The following were found in: "Communication Circuits Readdy-Reference" by John Markus, ISBN: 0-07-040460-7, published 1982 by McGraw-Hill. The circuit and a brief description and article reference are given.... I do not have the original articles for these, only what's given in this book.

VOX: "VOX for a Very Small Box", page 24, March 76 QST by D.A. Blakeslee. Uses an LM3900 (qual opamp) and an NE555, provides adjustments for mike gain, antivoice and delay, drives a relay, no PC board.

Clipper/Compressor speech processor: page 69, Feb 94 '73 Magazine' by B. Barrington. 1 transistor circuit.... doesn't look very good as no filtering after the clipper.

Preamp with Clipping: page 100, Feb 94 '73 Magazine'. 2 transistors... also doesn't look very good.

Precompression Shaper: page 21, May 74 '73 Magazine' by J. J. Schultz. 1 FET provides gain for high impedance mike followed by passive low and high rolloff filter with a 15dB centered at about 1KHz.

Logarithmic Limiter: "Audio-Frequency Speech Processor", page 48, Aug 97 'Ham Radio Magazine' by F.C. Getz. Uses 3 741 opamps for logarithmic limiting followed by a low pass active filter with cutoff at about

2.8KHz, adjustable gain, no PC board.

Logarithmic Limiter: "Circuits", page 152, March 77 '73 Magazine'.

3 transistors, combined speech amplifier and logarithmic clipper,
500-3000Hz bandwidth.

Out of all this stuff, what am I going to do for my QRP+... Steve, N2MNN,
sent me his construction article and a QST article reference for an
audio amp/shaper for the Radio Shack electret mike... !THANKS! I am going
to use this and I think I will also get the Ten Tec T-kit speech processor
and drive it with Steve's circuit.

Interestingly (or expectidly :^) The 'Heil Ham Radio Handbook' has a nice
section on mike audio... but no circuits for anything.

All this stuff I've listed... if you can't find it sent me your surface mail
address or a FAX number and what you'd like.

Scott
KB1NW

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: markem@primenet.com (Mark Monninger)
Subject: [2887] Re: state-of-the-art in HF TTY FSK demodulation?
Message-ID: <199601170322.UAA22726@usr6.primenet.com>

At 09:59 PM 1/16/96 EST, Wayne Burdick wrote:

>Anyone know what Kantronics and others using for FSK demodulation? I'm
>currently using an XR2211 in my QRP TTY system, but this is a pretty old
>device. Any thoughts on a better approach that still uses very little
>power and generates little EMI (i.e., non-DSP)?

>

>Thanks,

>Wayne

>N6KR

>

Hmmm...this couldn't have anything to do with the next NorCAL project, could
it???????

73... Mark AA7TA

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: JCoote@aol.com
Subject: [2886] Re: taking radioes to foreign countires?
Message-ID: <960116220314_44096921@mail04.mail.aol.com>

In a message dated 96-01-16 11:01:44 EST, V\$BCIESLAK@china.qgraph.com writes:

>)
>
>I need to go to brazil and japan during the course of the next couple of
>weeks to work on some product installations...Since the installation team
>maybe hundreds of feet apart during calibration we thought of taking a
>couple
>of 49 Mhz 100 mW tranceivers with us for communications. Since this is the
>well of all knowlege can someone here tell me if I cna legally use these
>radioes
>in those countries.
>
>Brian
>AE9K

Brain (and group),

I don't know about the legalities of these countries but in general but
please be damned careful about taking any communications radios to other
countries.

In North America and Western Europe we are pretty blase' when it comes to
wireless communications devices, including Ham radio, CB, business radios,
etc. Keeping this in mind, it is difficult to believe that if nice folks
like us go on a vacation in Kharfoom or Zimbimbie we may be perceived as
spies, drug smugglers or agents of the capitalistic news media. The "mon
generales" in some of these places are very paranoid when it comes to
foreigners with radios or even their own people with radios. As far as they
know, your 40 meter QRP rig may be used to telegraph their coconut production
figures to Langley.. and it may be hard to convince the local constabulary
otherwise.

I'm sure Brazil and Japan are not as bad as I portray. Anyone wanting to
travel and bring ham gear should call ARRL (or your countrys version of ARRL)
and also make contact with the consulate or ministry of communications of the
country you propose to visit. This applies to CB, business radio or an
innocent ham radio in the luggage. ; -)

73, Jay
WB6AAM

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: V\$BCIESLAK@china.qgraph.com
Subject: [2905] RE: taking radioes to foreign countires?
Message-ID: <01I03Z2WKCOY0001QN@hub.qgraph.com>

Thanks to all who responded....I think I'll leave them home and save myself a lot of potential problems...This trip is bad enough the way it is....

Brian AE9K

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: kf8at@detroit.ampr.org
Subject: [2893] Re: taking radios to foreign countries?
Message-ID: <507@detroit.ampr.org>

Brian, AE9K (and the group):
Brian's question about taking radio equipment to Brazil and Japan, and if it would cause any problems. I agree with Jay's (WB6AAM) reply. I, too, would be damn careful! Many government officials are suspicious enough as it is of foreigners (read: Americans)! Having a reciprocal license helps, but I have talked to a friend that lives in South America because of his job. I asked him if he had any problem with licensing or his equipment. His reply was that any radio equipment is suspect, especially HF gear. The implication is that you are in the drug smuggling business! He says that having a copy of his license very near is a requirement. When the officials see the antennas, they will check the residence to see what the equipment is used for! This is a country that allows him to purchase a sidearm for protection! He does not go anywhere without it, even when he is walking his dog! BTW, this IS NOT a backwards, hick country at war! This country would be considered a fairly "safe" to visit! So again, I would be damn careful!!!

73,
Floyd, KF8AT

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: Alan Kaul <kaul@netcom.com>
Subject: [2896] Re: taking radios to foreign countries?

Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9601162312.A8964-0100000@netcom7>

I've taken a radio or two overseas with me -- and had mixed results. The first time, a homebrew QRP rig and MFJ antenna tuner went with me to Jamaica--and both got seized at the airport shortly after landing! Now, Jamaica is considered a easy-going place, right? Well, after losing one full day taking a bus ride to Kingston, applying for and getting a portable license on the spot, and then flying back to the PORT OF ENTRY airport to reclaim my gear (with an optional tip for the customs officer) and then taking a taxi for another 45-minutes back to my hotel, I was ready to get on the air having lost only one day of a 7-day vacation.

The next time was the same rig on a visit to Jordan, where I had called and inquired of the embassy in advance about procedures. I had no permit when I arrived, but no one searched my luggage at customs so I headed into town and called the Royal Jordanian Radio Amateur Society the next day. A cab ride to the club station and an instant license. What terrific hosts! JY4MB, Mohammed, was extremely cordial and helpful. I was operating the club station that day, and had the QRP rig in the hotel room a few days later (after rigging an antenna to the balcony). Who would have thought -- the touristy place close to home could be such a hassle, and the mysterious Middle East could be so friendly?

Subsequently, on a trip to J28 (Djibouti) I didn't take the rig, but the man at PTT told me ''too bad you didn't bring your rig--I'd have issued you a license!'' I didn't have one in a lot of other places I traveled either (India--still waiting for that reciprocal license to come YEARS AFTER I VISITED), Turkey (I was there in '85 before radio was easy in TA-land), etc etc etc. The bottom line for me is ''find out first or the radio stays home.'' In the last 10-years I've travelled as a journalist to a lot of unfriendly places: Iraq, Libya, Syria, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, a few of the Gulf States, Algeria, Egypt, etc). I have been arrested in Syria and Iran and confined to the airport in Dubai (never because of amateur radio, but in Syria I had a shortwave Sony seized for about 2-hours because a policeman thought I could use it to eavesdrop on his two-way radio---the radio merely added to my already existing problems!!!!). Many places are likely to treat an American journalist as a spy anyway. And the presence of an HF or even a VHF radio would only complicate things. It's usually best to leave the rigs at home.

[<Alan Kaul, W6RCL>] kaul@netcom.com

From qrp-1@lehigh.edu Wed Jan 17 21:26:57 1996
From: John Dundas <ab6dg@netcom.com>
Subject: [2912] Re: Tuesday's Fox Report (shortest)
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9601170901.A5385-0100000@netcom14>

Preston--

Your schedule was perhaps a little early for us west coast qrp ruffians--I didn't get home til 6:30 PDST, so only had a few minutes to look for you. And I didn't find you! I did find Fearless Leader #1 (K5F0), however, and his pebble-bashing .95 watt signal. Gave him a 549. So at least the Texas Propagation Layer is still in place!

72/3 de John AB6DG

On Tue, 16 Jan 1996 PDouglas12@aol.com wrote:

> Thank you, AK5B, for being my only contact in two hours, and keeping me from
> being shut out and thoroughly embarrassed. 40 meters is the worst I've ever
> seen